

TR-IT-0085
CNTR:
Basic Functions for Centering Experiments
with ASURA

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Abstract

Centering is a family of theories of cohesion, the linkage among utterances. Entities (especially those expressed by noun phrases) are tracked through successive utterances, with emphasis on entities which are especially salient because of their syntactic prominence. Such tracking enables a classification of utterance-to-utterance transitions, ranked by respective cohesiveness. By computing all possible interpretations of the current utterance and selecting the one which would provide the most cohesive transition, it is possible to resolve the reference of many pronouns, including zero pronouns. This report describes CNTR, an implementation of a representative centering approach using ASURA's transfer system, based on suggestions by Nagata. Full code and programmer-oriented instructions are provided, as well as suggestions for future experiments. The mechanisms described here are fully compatible with pronoun resolution techniques already implemented in ASURA, especially Dohsaka's use of honorific information.

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Abstract

Centering is a family of theories of cohesion, the linkage among utterances. Entities (especially those expressed by noun phrases) are tracked through successive utterances, with emphasis on entities which are especially salient because of their syntactic prominence. Such tracking enables a classification of utterance-to-utterance transitions, ranked by respective cohesiveness. By computing all possible interpretations of the current utterance and selecting the one which would provide the most cohesive transition, it is possible to resolve the reference of many pronouns, including zero pronouns. This report describes CNTR, an implementation of a representative centering approach using ASURA's transfer system, based on suggestions by Masaaki Nagata. Full code and programmer-oriented instructions are provided, as well as suggestions for future experiments. The mechanisms described here are fully compatible with pronoun resolution techniques already implemented in ASURA, especially Dohsaka's use of honorific information.

1 Introduction

When we want to find the reference for a pronoun, or zero pronoun, or definite NP, we need to know which entities (generally noun phrase) have been mentioned until now in the discourse and how salient they are. That is, we need models of short- and long-term memory and attention.

Currently, the dominant approach to modeling *short-term* memory and attention is *centering*. It tells us which entities among the recently mentioned entities are most salient, or likely to receive attention. "Recent" here means "in the last few utterances". Because these recent and salient entities should be accessible for both the speaker and the listener, the speaker assumes that the listener can identify them easily. So when the speaker wants to refer to them in the next utterance, s/he will probably not use a full form; instead, s/he will use reduced forms like pronouns or zero pronouns. One of the salient entities will become the theme ("backward-looking center") of the next utterance – that is, its main connection to the preceding discourse, the known entity which the utterance will give new information about.

How do we know which entities in short-term memory are most salient, and thus most likely to be expressed in reduced form in the next utterance, or most likely to become its theme? By using a hierarchy of salience, which for instance can say that a grammatical topic (marked with *wa*) is more salient than various sorts of object (marked with *wo, ni*, etc.). We also can observe how salience tends to change from utterance to utterance – that is, what sorts of transitions are most likely.

While centering is the most established approach to pronoun resolution, it is certainly not the only one. There are several specialized approaches, such as Dohsaka's use of honorific information to resolve Japanese zeros [Dohsaka 1990].

A few other examples of specialized techniques are provided by [Nasukawa 1994]. This paper applies the two techniques below to Japanese texts:

- Collocation (modifiee-modifier) relationships can be extracted from the text, even without the use of a full parse. Having seen a sentence *He moved his residence*, we learn that residence can be the object of the verb move. We can then use this information as a selectional constraint to resolve the pronoun *it* in a sentence like *The castle in Camelot remained the residence of the king until 536 when he moved it to London*. Repeated collocation patterns can be recognized and exploited: using a Case Role Persistence Rule, we prefer resolution candidate noun phrases that filled the same role in previous utterances as a reduced form plays in the current one: In *Mary gave an apple to Susan. John also gave her an apple*, *her* refers to Susan, not Mary. Syntactic parallelism can be used in a similar way: *The girl scout leader paired mary with Susan, but she (the leader) had paired her (Mary) with Nancy last time*.
- The frequency of appearance of a noun phrase in the utterances preceding a reduced form can give an indication of its salience, and thus its priority as a resolution candidate.

Such specialized techniques can be compared with, and combined with, centering-based approaches.

Are centering models effective models of short-term memory and attention and their effects on reference? [Takada and Doi 1994] claim the ability to correctly identify 76 percent - 81 percent of the Japanese pronouns and zero pronouns in certain corpora without the use of a global focusing model [Grosz and Sidner 1986], a 5-6 percent improvement over previous versions. It would be instructive to check these numbers for our corpora. Use of specialized techniques might add several percent above the raw centering scores for Japanese. Below, we compare the approach of [Takada and Doi 1994] with other current techniques.

While centering models are designed to handle reference problems, they also provide part of the information necessary for determining whether noun phrases are *definite* in English, German, and other European languages. While this determination is not as important for communication as pronoun resolution, it provides an additional reason for experimentation with centering-type studies.

To enable experimentation in ASURA, CNTR, a set of prototype programs based on proposals by Masaaki Nagata (personal communication) has been implemented using ASURA's RWS transfer system [Hasegawa 1990]. This report describes the programs and provides theoretical background necessary for understanding them. Full code and programmer-oriented instructions are given, and suggestions are made regarding future experiments.

The mechanisms described here are fully compatible with pronoun resolution techniques already implemented in ASURA, especially Dohsaka's use of honorific information. If work on ASURA is discontinued, the CNTR programs can be used as models when writing similar programs for other parsers.

2 Summary of Centering, Comparison of Approaches

This section reviews basic centering ideas and briefly compares several approaches: [Walker, Iida, and Cote 1992], [Kameyama 1985, 1986, 1988], and recent suggestions by [Takada and Doi 1994].

2.1 Linkage Between Utterances

Centering is a family of theories concerning the linkage, or connection, between utterances. Sequential utterances are linked – and thus potentially coherent – if they both refer to the same discourse entity or entities: for instance, Taroo may be a referent in both U1 and U2. (Entities are usually semantic objects expressed by NPs, but propositions expressing clauses, too, may be handled in future versions of the theory). "Center" is sometimes used as an alternative name for "entity".

2.2 The Meaning of Salience

Entities (or centers) have differing degrees of salience. If entity1 (Taroo) is called more salient than entity2 (Hanako), this means that it can be identified more easily by discourse participants. (The underlying cognitive reason is not made explicit. Perhaps a salient entity is more active in short term memory or more accessible in long-term memory.)

2.3 Degrees Of Salience

Salience may be indicated in several ways by language producers, but the most important indicator for current theories is grammatical function. For example, in [Kameyama 1986] the following (incomplete) hierarchy is important for Japanese: (TOPIC (WA) > SUBJECT (WA/GA) > OBJECT (WO)/OBJECT2 (NI) > OTHERS, i.e. oblique, possessor, etc.) It may also be important to know whether or not an entity has already been expressed as a reduced form (pronoun or zero), since only very salient entities are expressed in this way.

2.4 Cp And Cb

The most salient entity in the current utterance U_i is called its preferred center, or Cp. The most salient entity in U_{i-1} (the last utterance) which occurs in U_i is called its backward-looking center, or Cb. Among all of the links or shared entities between the current utterance (U_i) and the last one (U_{i-1}), the Cb is the entity in the current utterance (U_i) that was the most salient or easiest to identify in the last utterance (U_{i-1}). We also need a way to refer to the full set of entities in an utterance: they are the Cf, or forward-looking centers. Cf members may become referents of the next utterance. (There is some disagreement about terminology: in [Kameyama 1985, 1986] and [Takada and Doi 1994], Cf refers to the full set minus the Cb.)

2.5 The Relation Between Saliency And Linkage

As mentioned, centering theory concerns linkage between consecutive utterances. More exactly, it concerns the relation between saliency and linkage. For instance, will the most salient entity in this utterance be the most salient in the next utterance, too? (Will the Cp of U_i – which is by definition the Cb of U_{i+1} – also be the Cp of U_{i+1} ?)

This question is important in all recent versions of the theory, though the terminology varies from version to version.

2.6 Transitions And Their Likelihood

We call a sequence of two utterances a transition. Some transition types apparently give a stronger sense of continuity or coherence than others, and in this sense are more expected.

For instance, as we will see below, a transition in which the most salient entity in both utterances is the same entity, ($Cb(U_i) = Cp(U_i)$), is apparently more canonical, and felt by listeners to be easier to interpret, than a sequence in which this condition fails.

One can observe several such factors and their combinations to give a scale of transition likelihoods.

2.7 Application To Reference Resolution

When several reduced forms are used in an utterance, their reference must be resolved. In the worst case, the number of possible interpretations could be equal to the number of permutations of reduced forms against possible referents from the previous utterance. (Note: Centering theories themselves have focused on the relation between two consecutive utterances. Long-distance reference requires a separate theory, e.g. of global focusing.) Actually, constraints on co-reference and semantic selectional constraints permit the elimination of some candidate combinations, but multiple possible combinations may remain.

However, transition likelihoods can rank any remaining interpretations: e.g., "Under Interpretation1, the most salient entity in both utterances would be the same, ($Cb(U_i) = Cp(U_i)$); but this is not so under Interpretation2. Thus Interpretation1 is more likely."

We have now presented the main elements of (generic) centering theory and its application to reference resolution. We can go on to briefly compare three approaches.

2.8 Three Centering Approaches Compared

Walker et al In [Walker et al 1992], transitions are considered mainly in terms of two factors:

- (a) Is $Cb(U_i)$ equal to $Cp(U_i)$? Does the most salient entity remain the same from utterance to utterance? Recall that the Cb of U_i indicates the most salient entity of U_{i-1} which appears in U_i ; and Cp of U_i is the most salient entity of U_i .

The first step in shifting Cbs – that is, in shifting a discourse "about" entity1 and making it "about" entity2 – is to make a transition in which the most salient entity of U_{i-1} (the previous utterance) and U_i (the current utterance) are not the same.

- (b) Is $Cb(U_{i-1})$ equal to $Cb(U_i)$? Does the backward-looking center remain the same from utterance to utterance? As just described, if the most salient entity shifts between e.g. U_1 and U_2 , then between U_2 and U_3 the discourse link (Cb) will shift. (This follows from the definition of Cb : it is the most salient entity in U_{i-1} which is also in U_i .) The link between U_1 and U_2 – the most salient entity in U_1 which is also in U_2 , the Cb of U_2 – will not be the same as the link between U_2 and U_3 , the Cb of U_3 . In this way, a discourse which has been "about" entity1 (because entity1 is the link during transition U_1 - U_2) becomes a discourse "about" entity2 (because entity2 is the link during transition U_2 - U_3).

By permuting these factors, we get four possible transition types, presented in order of likelihood:

- **Continue:** (a yes, b yes) Discourse link, Cb , continues during the transition, and that entity remains the most salient in the second utterance. In the next transition, the Cb will remain the same: the discourse will continue to be about the entity which has been most salient in both utterances of the Continue transition.
- **Retain:** (a no, b yes) Discourse link, Cb , continues during the transition, but that entity is no longer the most salient in the second utterance. In the next transition, the Cb will shift: the discourse will then be about the entity which moved into the most salient position of the second utterance of the Retain transition.
- **Smooth-Shift:** (a yes, b no) (Following a Retain transition) The discourse link, Cb , shifts between the first and second utterance. Furthermore, the most salient entity in U_1 continues to be the most salient in U_2 .
- **Shift:** (a no, b no) (Following a Retain transition) The discourse link, Cb , shifts between the first and second utterance. However, the most salient entity in U_1 is not the most salient in U_2 .

Here's an example showing all four transition types. This saliency hierarchy is used: TOPIC > EMPATHY > SUBJ > OBJ2 > OBJECT > OTHERS

(EMPATHY is an indication of viewpoint in Japanese utterances with *kureru*, *ageru*, etc. For instance, in *Taroo ga ziroo ni hon wo kureta*, Ziroo is the locus of empathy. Kameyama notes that this terminology is misleading since it suggests an emotional involvement, and substitutes the term IDENT, for identification.)

In the examples, possible interpretations appear as Cf listings, with entities in salience order. Notice that two interpretations are possible for the final utterance. Since Smooth-Shift transitions are preferred over Shift transitions for Walker et al, they predict that the first interpretation will be preferred – and 32 out of 34 informants agreed.

(a) Taroo ga kooen de hon wo yondeimashita.
Taroo SUBJ park at book OBJ reading-was.
Taroo was reading a book in the park.
Cb: [?] Cf: [Taroo/SUBJ, book/OBJ] NO TRANSITION

(b) O cola wo kai ni baiten ni hairimashita.
SUBJ cola OBJ buy to shop into entered
He entered a shop to buy a cola.
Cb: [Taroo] Cf: [Taroo/SUBJ, cola/OBJ] CONTINUE

(c) Ziroom wa O sokode guuzen dekuwashimashita.
Ziroom TOP/SUBJ OBJ there by chance met.
Ziroom met him there by chance.
Cb: [Taroo] Cf: [Ziroom/TOP, Taroo/OBJ] RETAIN

(d) O O eiga ni sasoimashita.
SUBJ OBJ movie to invited
He invited him to a movie.
Cb: [Ziroom] Cf1: [Ziroom/SUBJ, Taroo/OBJ] SMOOTH-SHIFT (32 people)
Cf2: [Taroo/SUBJ, Ziroom/OBJ] SHIFT (2 people)

After presenting their treatment of transitions, Walker et al discuss the relative salience of TOPIC and EMPATHY in Japanese. (To handle certain ambiguities, they also propose a Zero Topic Assignment rule which is beyond the scope of this short review.)

Kameyama An earlier treatment of transitions was that of [Kameyama 1986, 1988]. Kameyama's suggestion is that the interpretation of Japanese zeros depends on a default preference hierarchy of the properties to be shared between the antecedent and the zero. This property-sharing constraint is as follows:

Two zero-pronouns in adjacent utterances which both specify the same discourse entity must share one of the following properties (in descending order of preference): 1) both IDENT and SUBJECT, 2) IDENT alone, 3) both NONIDENT and NONSUBJECT, 5) NONSUBJECT alone, or 6) NONIDENT alone. (IDENT is Kameyama's preferred term for EMPATHY – an indication of viewpoint in sentences with *kureru*, *ageru*, etc.)

Sentences with one and only one zero receive special treatment: there is a default preference order among full NPs considered as the potential antecedent: TOPIC > IDENT > SUBJECT > OBJECT(S) > OTHERS.

Walker et al describe themselves as building on top of this earlier work. Kameyama's formulation, they believe, covers many of their examples if one assumes that SUBJECTS become EMPATHY loci by default. However, they discuss several types of sequences in which Kameyama's formulation gives no prediction, or the wrong one.

Takada and Doi In the salience hierarchy of her dissertation work [Kameyama 1985], Kameyama tries to model the effect of prior reduced expression on salience: the Cb of an utterance comes to have special salience, and ranks higher than any grammatical function. However, if there are multiple zero pronouns or referring pronouns (e.g. *kanojo*) in an utterance, only one of them can become the backward-looking center, thus gaining special salience and priority. In contrast, any other zero or explicit pronouns get no special treatment, and are treated in the same way as fully expressed NPs. [Takada and Doi 1994], however, propose that such reduced forms should actually

be considered more salient than fully expressed forms. Their main point: If an entity is referred to by a reduced form once, this indicates its high salience, so the same entity is increasingly likely to be expressed by a reduced form again.

For example, given a zero pronoun encoding Saburo and an overt form Ziroo encoding the entity Ziroo in some utterance, and given a single zero pronoun in the next utterance which could refer to either Saburo or Ziroo according to the salience hierarchy, the more likely referent is Saburo.

To implement this suggestion, rather than a single Cb plus a list of Cfs, Takeda and Doi propose two lists, a Center List (entities in a sentence that have become zero or explicit pronouns) and a Possible Center List (entities in a sentence that were overtly expressed). In this treatment, there can thus be more than one Center in the Center List, and any Center (in their terms, any entity which has already been expressed as a reduced form) ranks higher than a mere Possible Center (any entity which has not been expressed by a reduced form). However, some Centers rank higher than others, just as, in the older theories, some Possible Centers (Cfs) rank higher than others.

Their experimental implementation is described in helpful detail. One detail is of special interest. Although their basic mechanism can see antecedents only in the previous utterance, they avoid the need for a global focusing stack [Grosz and Sidner 1986]. Antecedents which are further back are handled in an ad hoc, but apparently effective, manner, using two additional lists: the Past Center List (entities that have previously been a zero or explicit pronoun but do not appear in the current utterance) and the Noun List (entities that have never been a zero or explicit pronoun). Contents of these lists are limited to entities in the three previous utterances.

Interpretation of the current sentence proceeds as follows: Each entity in the four lists receives a salience score. Respecting constraints on co-reference and semantic type, find all possible combinations of antecedents from the four lists. Since each antecedent has a score, the total score for a combination can be a simple sum of the antecedent scores (plus bonus scores according to Kameyama-style "property-sharing" constraints). Choose the best scoring interpretation, update the four lists, and move on.

3 Basic Programs for Centering in ASURA

We now describe the programs and use of CNTR.

3.1 Preparations for Transfer Load

As CNTR is build to run within the ASURA transfer system, the first task is to bring that system up. As the programs are not presently under active development, this can be difficult. Below is the very specific procedure used to enable transfer load on as24 on 94/12/06. It should of course be adapted for other machines.

1. Copy `as26:/DB/oldproject/asura/develop/translation/transfer/*` to `as24`.

It proved desirable to copy files because of problems with paths in compiled files.

2. Make customized files

`as24:/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/transfer/load-basic.lisp.941206.1345`

`as24:/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/transfer/rws-v2/load-dtm-mset-index.lisp.941206.1347`

Listings of these files are below.

3. In file ...


```

... transfer/rws-vs/compiler/hostname.tbl.h
enter line
"as24", "/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/transfer/rws-v2/compiler/rws2.0",
and increment _HOSTNUMBER if necessary

```

4. In directory


```

as24:/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/transfer/rws-v2/compiler/
at Unix prompt, do
MAKE CLEAN

```
5. In the same directory, do


```

MAKE SCL
SCL stands for Sun Common Lisp.

```
6. In the same directory, do


```

MAKE

```
7. In Lucid Common Lisp 4.0


```

(load "/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/transfer/load-basic.lisp.941206.1345")
during load, answer C (compile) to all prompts

```

Following are listings of the customized load files mentioned above.

```

*****
;;;as24@[/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/transfer/load-basic.lisp.941206.1345
*****

;;;load-basic.lisp
;;;941205
;;;created by ms by hand to match earlier hard copy
;=====
;
; Loading Transfer System
;
;=====

(in-package 'user)

(defvar *default-home-directory* "/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/")
(defvar user::*demo_home_directory* "/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/")

(setq *diana-exec-flg* nil)
(setq *use-diana-p* nil)

;
; sentence translation system
;
;
(load (merge-pathnames "transfer/rws-v2/load-dtm-mset-index"
  *default-home-directory*))

```



```

(print s-hostname)
  (if (assoc s-hostname *HOST_list*)
      (cdr (assoc s-hostname *HOST_LIST*))
      (loop
        (format t "Please Input Path ==> ")
        (terpri)
        (setq s-hostname (read-line))
        (when (stringp s-hostname)
          (return s-hostname))))))
(print *HOST_LIST*)
(unless (boundp '*RWS-TRANS-DIRECTORY*)
  (setf *rws-trans-directory* (real-module-name)))
(unless (boundp '*RWS-HOME-DIRECTORY*)
  (setf *RWS-HOME-DIRECTORY*
    (concatenate 'string *rws-trans-directory* "rws-v2/")))
(unless (boundp '*RWS-RULE-DIRECTORY*)
  (setf *RWS-RULE-DIRECTORY*
    (concatenate 'string *rws-trans-directory* "rules/grammar-mset/"))) ; "transfer/rules/dtm9308/"
(unless (boundp '*RWS-RULE-FILE*)
  (setq *RWS-RULE-FILE*
    (concatenate 'string *rws-trans-directory* "rules/grammar-mset/rws.data"))) ; "transfer/rules/
;;(cd *RWS-HOME-DIRECTORY*) 92.11.26
(load (merge-pathnames "engine/load.lisp" *RWS-HOME-DIRECTORY*))
(load (merge-pathnames "engine/rws-id" *RWS-HOME-DIRECTORY*))
;(load "type/thesaurus")
(load (merge-pathnames "type/load" *RWS-HOME-DIRECTORY*))
(load (merge-pathnames "compiler/load-v2.lisp" *RWS-HOME-DIRECTORY*))
;;(in-package 'rws)
(load (merge-pathnames "context/context-load.lisp" *rws-home-directory*))
;;(load "rws-v2/tolls/help")
(in-package 'user)
(load (merge-pathnames "rws.index" RWS::*RWS-RULE-DIRECTORY*))

```

3.2 Transfer Load and Transfer Invocation

Once the above preparations are complete, load of the Lisp file TRANSFERFNS.LISP (Appendix 2) should proceed without problems. This file performs the actual transfer system load, and also includes several useful programs for running and debugging transfer rules. Especially important for present purposes is the function DT ("do transfer"). The head of its definition is shown below.

```

(defun dt (number &key
  (debug-transfer nil)
  (debug-centering nil)
  (initialize-centering nil)
  (interactive-centering nil))
  ...)

```

NUMBER is the index to an analysis output ("anout") feature structure (FS) which must be transferred from its original Japanese form to an English or German form suitable for generation input. The 262 anouts of the MSET, as used in the first major CSTAR demo, are loaded into Lisp during the load of TRANSFERFNS.LISP. The simple program call

(dt 1)

will for instance invoke transfer for the first utterance of the first dialogue, transforming an anout containing もしもし to an appropriate English structure ("transout") containing HELLO.

The keyword arguments to DT enable transfer debugging; but more important for our purposes now are the last three keywords, which affect centering: DEBUG-CENTERING, INITIALIZE-CENTERING, and INTERACTIVE-CENTERING. The first enable several printouts useful for understanding the operation of the centering programs. The last two will be explained below.

3.3 Transfer Rules Modified for CNTR

CNTR is designed to provide a more general alternative for a number of relatively ad hoc rules which have been used in the past in ASURA to resolve zero pronouns. For instance, rule elps038 is specialized to resolve zero arguments for the Japanese verb 送る only. The rule is listed as an example in Appendix 2, and repeated here for convenience.

```
;;;For DISPLAY ONLY!! During demo running Da-06 and Da-10.
;;;AD HOC RULE for setting RECP to HEARER for translation of Da10.
;;; "Well then, I'll send YOU a registration form."
;;; "Also gut, ich werde IHNEN ein Anmeldeformular schicken."
;;; Made unnecessary by Centering programs. For demo, commented out
;;; -- not used, because not needed.
;
; ;[IR]*****
; ;[IR];;; M-SET No.10 (da-10) それでは、登録用紙をお送り致します。
; ;[IR];;; M-SET No.50 (d1-13) それでは、登録用紙をお送り致します。
; ;[IR];;; M-SET No.132 (d5-16) 後日プログラムと予稿集をお送り致します。
; ;[IR];;; M-SET No.206 (d8-24) では早速お送り致します。
; ;[IR]*****
;(rws:defrwschema2 elps038 V RE
;"on <obje reln> 送る -1 IN :MOOD :DECLARATIVE
;  \ "動作動詞の現在形の平叙文の主語 --> 一人称 \ "
;  in= [[reln UNKNOWN-IFT]
;        [agen ?agen]
;        [recp ?recp]
;        [obje [[reln 送る -1] ;;;?action]
;              [aspt unr1]
;              ?rest]]]
;
; ; if input.obje.agen =? [] and ( ?action =? $送る -1 or ?action =? $同封する -1 )
; ; if input.obje.agen =? [] ;;;and ?action =? $送る -1
; ; then
; ;   input.obje.agen = input.agen
; ; endif
;
; ; if input.obje.recp =? [] and ( ?action =? $送る -1 or ?action =? $同封する -1 )
; ; if input.obje.recp =? [] ;;;and ?action =? $送る -1
; ; then
; ;   input.obje.recp = input.recp
; ; endif
;
```

```

; RETURN INPUT
;end")
;

```

For CNTR experiments, a version of the ASURA transfer rule set (all.euc) was prepared in which most such rules have been commented out.

In compensation, the rules which handle verbs are to be altered in order to invoke CNTR during their operation (that is, after they are matched but before they complete their rewriting operation). Here are the two rules which were altered in this way for demo purposes. The old versions of the rules must be explicitly removed from virtual memory.¹ We show the old rules and the system function calls which remove them. (Again, we repeat for convenience material which is included in Appendix 2.)

```

(rws::remove-rw-rule2 'defv309)
;;;940406 rule added for demo
;;;Commenting out centering rule for canonical mset load.
(rws:defrwschema2 center002 t t
  "on <reln> 持つ-1 in :PHASE :J-E :Type :Default
    in= [[reln 持つ-1] ;<<
          [aspt ?aspt] ;<<added constraint
          [agen ?agen]
          [obje ?obje]
          ?rest]
% (rws::resolve-zero-pronouns-by-centering pairlis)

    out= [[reln have-V-1] ;<<
          [aspt ?aspt] ;<<added constraint
          [agen ?agen]
          [obje ?obje]
          ?rest]

  end"
)

;;;Comment out or remove following transfer rule for demo use of sentence Da-06 (no.6)
;;;replaced by center002
(rws:defrwschema2 defv309 V もつ
"on <reln> 持つ-1 in :PHASE :J-E :Type :Default
;   in= [[reln 持つ-1]
;         [AGEN ?AGEN]
;         [OBJE ?OBJE]
;         ?rest]
;   out= [[reln have-V-1]
;         [AGEN ?AGEN]
;         [OBJE ?OBJE]
;         ?rest]
;end")

;;; - - - - -

```

¹Beware! Due to an apparent system bug, rule removals must be executed *before* entering the definitions for replacement rules. In reverse order, the replacement rules seem to be removed as well as a side effect.

```

(rws::remove-rw-rule2 'defv046)

(rws:defrwschema2 center003 t t
"on <reln> 送る -1 in :PHASE :J-E :Type :Default
  in= [[reln 送る -1]
        [AGEN ?AGEN]
        [RECP ?RECP]
        [OBJE ?OBJE]
        ?rest]

% (rws::resolve-zero-pronouns-by-centering pairlis)

  out= [[reln send-V-1]
         [AGEN ?AGEN]
         [RECP ?RECP]
         [OBJE ?OBJE]
         ?rest]
end")

;;;Comment out or remove following transfer rule for demo use of sentence Da-10 (no.10)
;;;replace by center003
;(rws:defrwschema2 defv046 V おく
;"on <reln> 送る -1 in :PHASE :J-E :Type :Default
;  in= [[reln 送る -1]
;        [AGEN ?AGEN]
;        [RECP ?RECP]
;        [OBJE ?OBJE]
;        ?rest]
;
;
; ;;; (d8-6) まず2百字の要約を3月20日までにこちらまでお送りください。
; ;;; if input.dest == input.recip then
; ;;;
; ;;;     delete dest from ?input
; ;;;
; ;;; endif
;
;
;  out= [[reln send-V-1]
;        [AGEN ?AGEN]
;        [RECP ?RECP]
;        [OBJE ?OBJE]
;        ?rest]
;end")

```

3.4 The Top-level CNTR Function

Note a Lisp function call within the two replacement rules, (RWS::RESOLVE-ZERO-PRONOUNS-BY-CENTERING PAIRLIS), enabled through the use of the percent sign. This special character allows an escape to Lisp during rule operation.

This function is CNTR's top-level function. Its only argument is the function parameter MY-PAIRLIS. The value of the transfer system variable PAIRLIS should always be passed in to this CNTR function as shown.

PAIRLIS is a variable defined within the transfer system which contains bindings for various rule variables. It is called PAIRLIS because it is a list of pairs, where each pair is a rule feature and its binding, which is local to the rule. PAIRLIS itself is not a global transfer system variable, but rather is local to the functions which operate during rule use. If its value is not passed as shown, the CNTR programs cannot access it.

3.5 Overview of CNTR's Operation

Once CNTR's top-level program receives a list of pairs via PAIRLIS, it takes the following steps:

- Within the PAIRLIS pairs, separate zero and non-zero arguments. Zero arguments represent zero pronouns which must be resolved.
- Compute possible interpretations by finding all possible (allowable) combinations of binding for the zeros. Candidate bindings are the entities (feature structures) made available by the *forward-looking-centers* of the previous utterance, U_{i-1} . (In the special case that there were no zero arguments, only one interpretation is possible.)
- Eliminate any interpretations which violate constraints. At present, CNTR can eliminate coreference violations (see below), but cannot recognize or eliminate type violations.
- Each surviving interpretation will have been tagged with a transition type. Using a hierarchy of transition types as explained in a previous section, select the highest-scoring interpretation. (Or, if the the function DT has been invoked with a non-nil :INTERACTIVE-CENTERING keyword argument, present a menu of possible interpretations to the user for interactive selection.

Permutations The only programs within CNTR which may be difficult to follow are those which find all possible combinations of zero and non-zero arguments to compose possible "bare interpretations", i.e. potential forward-looking-center sets. The difficulty arises because of the combinatorics: in a way familiar from statistical study, one must find all possible ways of matching a set of candidates against a set of zeros. This is done within the recursive function PERMUTE-ALL-POSSIBLE-INTERPRETATION-SETS. We will not review the computation in detail here, but those interested in altering the process should attend carefully to the debug printouts between "Computation of possible interpretations STARTS" and "Computation of possible interpretations ENDS".

During this stage, potential interpretations in which different features share any bindings are eliminated (III.E.1, filtering coreference violations).

Identifying Centers "Bare interpretations" (forward-looking-center sets) are augmented as CNTR runs to become complete interpretations. Each complete interpretation is a list with four fields (see III.C):

```
transition-type  
backward-looking-center  
preferred-center  
forward-looking-centers
```

The subroutine calls which augment interpretations can be seen in III.F: Calculating a preferred center involves finding the element in the interpretation which scores highest on the syntactic hierarchy *center-salience-ranking*.

Unfortunately, there is a complication: ASURA's analysis output presently delivers features whose names are cases (like *agen*) rather than true syntactic functions (like *subj*). Thus it is necessary to intermap these notations – internally, converting case notation to syntactic notation – before sorting. Note a warning in the code: *The present mapping is for demonstration only, and does not address potential problems of ambiguous mappings.*

Calculation of backward-looking-center presents no special problems, but follows from the definition: The backward-looking-center of the current utterance U_i is the most salient entity of the last utterance which appears in U_i , that is, the entity also in U_i which had the most salient role in U_{i-1} .

Calculation of the transition type and automatic or interactive selection of the highest-ranking interpretation are also straightforward.

Selecting an interpretation Once an interpretation has been selected, it is installed as the updated value of PAIRLIS using the transfer system function `rws::install-key-value`.

Updating Then the global variables `*forward-looking-center-of-last-utterance*` and `*backward-looking-center-of-last-utterance*` are updated, and the operation of CNTR is complete for that rule. (Rather than use these globals, future versions of CNTR could follow Nagata's original concept in using DEFSTRUCT to create structures more suitable for long-range record-keeping.)

3.6 Interaction with Other Resolution Rule in the Demo

As mentioned, CNTR rules run alongside the older rules which implement e.g. Dohsaka's rules using honorifics. In fact, the current demo would not work properly without these rules. The present prototype demo works only for the 2-utterance sequence Da-6, Da-10 (transouts number 6 and 10) – see the function RUN-DEMO (I.B).

In the demo, Da-6 can be treated as an initial utterance because all of its zeros are resolved via honorifics. At present, CNTR treats discourse-initial utterances containing unresolved zeros as errors.

4 Current Limitations and the Future

Two limitations now prevent CNTR from practical operation within the MSET corpus:

First, the program lacks application of type constraints, and thus will allow type violations like "The application form will send me right away" into interpretations. The transfer system does have a typed variable checking facility, but it has been used only for preliminary experiments. Given the power of the facility and its potential usefulness in avoiding many ad hoc aspects of current rules (see [Seligman 1993]), further experimentation might be worthwhile.

Second, the system can resolve zeros at present only if the referents are in the immediately preceding utterance. In the MSET, this often leads to resolution failure, because there are many short utterances like *はい* which effectively separate zeros from their potential anaphors. Thus some sort of global model is required. However, it need not be elaborate, as [Takeda and Doi 1994] demonstrate.

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APPENDIX 1: CNTR.LISP Program Code

APPENDIX 2: TRANSFERFNS.LISP Program Code

```
LINE #      TEXT
1
2 //////////////////////////////////////////////////
3 //////////////////////////////////////////////////
4 //////////////////////////////////////////////////
5
6 -----
7 //      CNTR: Basic Functions for Centering Experiments with ASURA
8 -----
9 //
10 //              Mark Seligman
11 //              Dec. 1994
12 //////////////////////////////////////////////////
13 //////////////////////////////////////////////////
14
15
16 //:CONTENTS
17
18 //:I. AUX
19 //:  A. PRINTING
20 //:  B. HACKS FOR DEBUGGING
21
22 //:II. TRANSFER RULES
23
24 //:III. CNTR MAIN ENS
25
26 //:  A. TOP LEVEL CONTROL
27 //:    1. globals, switches
28 //:    2. resolving zero pronouns by centering
29 //:  B. GETTING ZERO AND NON-ZERO ARGUMENTS
30 //:  C. DEFINING INTERPRETATION DATA STRUCTURE
31 //:  D. MAKING A UNIQUE INTERPRETATION
32 //:  E. COMPUTING POSSIBLE INTERPRETATIONS
33 //:    1. filtering coreference violations
34 //:  F. AUGMENTING INTERPRETATIONS
35 //:    1. calculating preferred center
36 //:    2. calculating backward-looking center
37 //:    3. calculating transition type
38 //:  G. SELECTING THE INTERPRETATION WITH THE HIGHEST-RANKING TRANSITION TYPE
39 //:    1. automatic selection
40 //:    2. automatic selection
41 //:  H. UPDATING PAIRLIS
42 //:  I. UPDATING *FORWARD-LOOKING-CENTERS-OF-LAST-UTTERANCE*
43 //:  J. UPDATING *BACKWARD-LOOKING-CENTER-OF-LAST-UTTERANCE*
44
45 //:-----
46 //:
47 //:  I. AUX
48 //:-----
49 //:-----
50
51 //:-----
52 //:  I.A. PRINTING
53 //:-----
54
55 (setq *print-level* 20)
56
57 (defun rws::pprint-all-pairs (list-of-pairs)
58   (let ((counter 1))
59     (format t "~2%::: [start list-of-pairs]")
60     (loop for pair in list-of-pairs do
61       ((format t "~2%pair#s" counter)
62        (rws::pprint-pair pair)
63        (format t "-----")
64        (setq counter (1+ counter))
65        )
66     (format t "~%::: [end list-of-pairs]~%"))
67
68 (defun rws::pprint-pair (pair)
69   (format t "%s %s" (first pair)
70     (rws::ppfs (rest pair)))
71   (format t "%s")
72
73 (defun rws::pprint-all-interpretations (list-of-interpretations)
74   (let ((counter 1))
75     (rws::print-transition-definitions)
76     (format t "~2%@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@ [start list-of-interpretations]")
77     (loop for interpretation in list-of-interpretations do
78       (format t "~2%INTERPRETATION#s" counter)
79       (rws::pprint-interpretation interpretation)
80       (format t "-----")
81       (setq counter (1+ counter)))
82     (format t "~%@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@ [end list-of-interpretations]~%"))
83
84 (defun rws::print-transition-definitions ()
85   (format t "%2%TRANSITION DEFINITIONS in preference order.")
86   (format t "%2%Cb is backward-looking-center, Cp is preferred-center, Ui is current utterance. Ui-1 is preceding utterance.")
87   (format t "%2%Cb(Ui-1) = Cb(Ui) and Cb(Ui) = Cp(Ui): CONTINUE.")
88   (format t "%2%Cb(Ui-1) = Cb(Ui) and Cb(Ui) not= Cp(Ui): RETAIN.")
89   (format t "%2%Cb(Ui-1) not= Cb(Ui) and Cb(Ui) = Cp(Ui): SMOOTH-SHIFT.")
90   (format t "%2%Cb(Ui-1) not= Cb(Ui) and Cb(Ui) not= Cp(Ui): SHIFT.")
91
92 (defun rws::pprint-interpretation (interpretation)
93   (let ((transition-type
94         (rws::get-interpretation-element interpretation 'transition-type))
95         (backward-looking-center
96         (rws::get-interpretation-element interpretation 'backward-looking-center))
97         (preferred-center
98         (rws::get-interpretation-element interpretation 'preferred-center))
99         (forward-looking-centers
100        (rws::get-interpretation-element interpretation 'forward-looking-centers)))
101
102     (format t "~2%Transition type: %s" transition-type)
103     (format t "~2%Backward-looking-center: %s" backward-looking-center)
104     (rws::ppfs backward-looking-center)
105     (format t "~2%Preferred-center: %s" preferred-center)
106     (rws::ppfs preferred-center)
107     (format t "~2%Forward-looking-centers: %s" forward-looking-centers)
108     (rws::pprint-all-pairs forward-looking-centers))
109
110 //:-----
111 //:  I.B. HACKS FOR DEBUGGING AND DEMO
112 //:-----
113
114 //:Not called by functions below.
115 (defun rws::reset-fcs ()
116   (setq *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* nil))
117
118 (defun rws::ppfs (node) (rws::pprint-fs node))
119
120 (defun rws::run-demo ())
```

```

LINE #          TEXT
121 (dt 6 :initialize-centering t :debug-centering t)
122 (dt 10 :initialize-centering nil :debug-centering t))
123
124 (defun rws::run-demo-interactive ()
125   (dt 6 :initialize-centering t :debug-centering t)
126   (dt 10 :initialize-centering nil :debug-centering t :interactive-centering t))
127
128 *****
129
130
131 II. TRANSFER RULES
132
133 *****
134
135 <<<<<<TRANSFER SYSTEM BUG??
136 Rule removals must be executed BEFORE entering
137 the definitions for replacement rules.
138 In reverse order, the replacement rules seem to be
139 removed as well as a side effect.
140 (rws::remove-rw-rule2 'defv309)
141
142
143
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237
238
239
240

```



```

LINE #          TEXT
361      ;;Else this is not the first utterance.
362      ;;Compute all possible interpretations and
363      ;;choose the interpretation which scores highest on transition hierarchy.
364      (let* ((possible-interpretations
365             (rws::compute-possible-interpretations
366              zero-arg-pairs non-zero-arg-pairs)
367             (highest-ranking-interpretation
368              (if *interactive-centering*
369                  (rws::get-highest-ranking-interpretation-from-user
370                   possible-interpretations)
371                  (rws::get-highest-ranking-interpretation
372                   possible-interpretations))))
373             (forward-looking-centers-for-current-utterance
374              (rws::get-interpretation-element highest-ranking-interpretation 'forward-looking-centers))
375             (backward-looking-center-for-current-utterance
376              (rws::get-interpretation-element highest-ranking-interpretation 'backward-looking-center)))
377
378      ;;(A) install values from best interpretation into mypairlis
379      ;;<<<beware scoping
380      (rws::install-interpretation-in-pairlis highest-ranking-interpretation mypairlis)
381
382      (if *debug-centering*
383          (format t "~2%mypairlis after installation: ~s" mypairlis))
384
385      ;;(A) set new *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* to new, completed pairlis
386      ;;(A) set new *backward-center-of-last-utterance*
387      ;;(rws::update-centers mypairlis)
388      (rws::update-forward-looking-centers highest-ranking-interpretation)
389      (rws::update-backward-looking-center highest-ranking-interpretation)))
390
391      (if *debug-centering*
392          (progn
393              (format t "~2%*forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* after update:")
394              (rws::pprint-all-pairs *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance*)
395              (format t "~2%*backward-looking-center-of-last-utterance* after update:")
396              (rws::ppfs *backward-looking-center-of-last-utterance*))))
397
398      ;;
399      ;; III.B. GETTING ZERO AND NON-ZERO ARGUMENTS
400      ;;
401      ;;Returns <zero-arg-pairs><non-zero-arg-pairs>
402      (defun rws::get-zero-and-non-zero-arg-pairs (mypairlis)
403          (let* ((zero-arg-pairs
404                 (loop for pair in mypairlis if (rws::pair-zero-argp pair)
405                    collect pair))
406                 ;;<<<note filtering
407                 (filtered-zero-arg-pairs
408                  (rws::filter-args-of-interest zero-arg-pairs))
409                 (non-zero-arg-pairs
410                  (set-difference mypairlis zero-arg-pairs))
411                 ;;<<<note filtering
412                 (filtered-non-zero-arg-pairs
413                  (rws::filter-args-of-interest non-zero-arg-pairs)))
414              (list filtered-zero-arg-pairs filtered-non-zero-arg-pairs)))
415
416      (defvar *args-of-interest* '(?agen ?obje ?recp))
417
418      ;;For both zero and non-zero args, we consider only
419      ;;members of *ARGS-OF-INTEREST* as defined above.
420      ;;Otherwise ?REST, ?ROOT, ?INPUT, and other features of PAIRLIS
421      ;;interfere in centering calculations.
422      (defun rws::filter-args-of-interest (list-of-pairs)
423          (loop for pair in list-of-pairs
424              when (member (car pair) *args-of-interest*)
425                  collect pair))
426
427      (defun rws::pair-zero-argp (pair)
428          ;;(format t "~1%pair is: ~s" pair)
429          (let* ((pair-node (rest pair)))
430              (and
431                  (rws::node-p pair-node)
432                  (rws::null-node-p pair-node))))
433
434      (defun rws::null-node-p (node)
435          (rws::fs-equal node (rws::read-fs-from-string "[ ]")))
436
437      ;;
438      ;; III.C. DEFINING INTERPRETATION DATA STRUCTURE
439      ;;
440      (defvar *interpretation-elements*
441          '((transition-type 0)
442            (backward-looking-center 1)
443            (preferred-center 2)
444            (forward-looking-centers 3)))
445
446      (defun rws::get-interpretation-element-position (element-name)
447          (second
448              (assoc element-name *interpretation-elements*)))
449
450      (defun rws::get-interpretation-element (interpretation element-name)
451          (let ((position (rws::get-interpretation-element-position element-name)))
452              (nth position interpretation)))
453
454      ;;
455      ;; III.D. MAKING A UNIQUE INTERPRETATION
456      ;;
457      (defun rws::make-unique-interpretation (mypairlis)
458          (let* ((forward-looking-centers
459                 (rws::filter-args-of-interest mypairlis))
460                 (preferred-center
461                  (rws::get-interpretation-preferred-center forward-looking-centers)))
462              ;;MAKING UNIQUE INTERPRETATION
463              ;;transition type is NO-TRANSITION, backward-looking-center is null
464              ;;(no-transition nil ,preferred-center ,forward-looking-centers)))
465
466      ;;
467      ;; III.E. COMPUTING POSSIBLE INTERPRETATIONS
468      ;;
469      (let* ((pair-format (pcase-tag . <node ftr str>))
470             ;;Both zero-arg-pairs and *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance*
471             ;;have form <ctr><ctr> ...
472             (defun rws::compute-possible-interpretations (zero-arg-pairs non-zero-arg-pairs)
473                 (let* ((all-partial-interpretation-sets
474                        (rws::get-all-partial-interpretation-sets zero-arg-pairs))
475                        (interpretations-without-non-zero-args

```

```

LINE #          TEXT
481 (rws::permute-all-partial-interpretation-sets all-partial-interpretation-sets))
482 ;;filtering for coreference violations after adding non-zero args
483 ;;sorting is suppressed
484 (once-filtered-interpretations-without-non-zero-args
485 (rws::filter-coreference-violations-and-sort interpretations-without-non-zero-args))
486 (once-filtered-interpretations-plus-non-zero-args
487 (loop for interpretation in once-filtered-interpretations-without-non-zero-args collect
488 (append non-zero-arg-pairs interpretation)))
489 ;;re-filtering for coreference violations after adding non-zero args
490 ;;this time, sort results by salience
491 (refiltered-interpretations-sorted
492 (rws::filter-coreference-violations-and-sort once-filtered-interpretations-plus-non-zero-args :sort t))
493 (augmented-refiltered-interpretations
494 (loop for interpretation in refiltered-interpretations-sorted collect
495 (rws::augment-interpretation interpretation)))
496 (if *debug-centering*
497 (progn
498 (format t "~2%;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;")
499 (format t "~2%Computation of possible interpretations STARTS.")
500 (format t "~2%;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;")
501 (format t "~2%all-partial-interpretation-sets:")
502 (format t "~2%interpretations-without-non-zero-args:")
503 (loop for interpretation in interpretations-without-non-zero-args do
504 (rws::pprint-all-pairs interpretation))
505 (format t "~2%once-filtered-interpretations-without-non-zero-args:")
506 (loop for interpretation in once-filtered-interpretations-without-non-zero-args do
507 (rws::pprint-all-pairs interpretation))
508 (format t "~2%once-filtered-interpretations-plus-non-zero-args:")
509 (loop for interpretation in once-filtered-interpretations-plus-non-zero-args do
510 (rws::pprint-all-pairs interpretation))
511 (format t "~2%refiltered-interpretations-sorted:")
512 (loop for interpretation in refiltered-interpretations-sorted do
513 (rws::pprint-all-pairs interpretation))
514 (format t "~2%;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;")
515 (format t "~2%Computation of possible interpretations ENDS.")
516 (format t "~2%;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;")
517 (format t "~2%*****FOR THIS NON-INITIAL UTTERANCE, POSSIBLE INTERPRETATIONS ARE:*****")
518 (rws::pprint-all-interpretations augmented-refiltered-interpretations)))
519
520 augmented-refiltered-interpretations))
521
522 ;;ZERO-ARG-PAIRS is list of pairs e.g.
523 ;;((?agt [])(?obj [])(?recp [])) --- for an utterance with three zero args
524 ;; and *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* is similar but with non-zero-bindings
525 ;;((?agt [fsl])(?obj [fs2])(?recp [fs3]) ...) giving a list of entities
526 ;;(feature structures [fsl][fs2][fs3] ...)
527 ;;This function returns all Partial Interpretation Sets, where each PIS is a list of all
528 ;;possible pairings of one case (or syntactic) role against all entities appearing in
529 ;;the previous utterance UI-1.
530
531 ;;( ( (?agt . [fsl]) ) ;partial interpretation 1 ;a partial interpretation set
532 ;; ( (?agt . [fs2]) ) ;partial interpretation 2 ;(cont)
533 ;; ( (?agt . [fs3]) ) ;partial interpretation 3 ;(cont)
534 ;; <another partial interpretation set>
535 ;; <another partial interpretation set> ...)
536 (defun rws::get-all-partial-interpretation-sets (zero-arg-pairs)
537 (loop for zero-arg-pair in zero-arg-pairs collect
538 (loop for forward-looking-center in *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* collect
539 (list (rws::bind-zero-arg-pair-and-forward-looking-center
540 zero-arg-pair forward-looking-center))))))
541
542 ;;ZERO-ARG-PAIR looks like (?agt . [])
543 ;;and forward-looking-center pair looks like (?obj . [non-empty ftr str])
544 ;;Result of merging is e.g. (?agt . [non-empty ftr str])
545 ;;where cdr of forward-looking-center replaces empty cdr of zero-arg-pair: (?obj . [non-empty ftr str])
546 (defun rws::bind-zero-arg-pair-and-forward-looking-center (zero-arg-pair forward-looking-center)
547 (cons (car zero-arg-pair) (cdr forward-looking-center)))
548
549 ;;Recursively combines partial interpretation sets into all possible
550 ;;combinations of zero args and entities.
551 ;;Non-zero args are not yet included.
552 (defun rws::permute-all-partial-interpretation-sets (partial-interpretation-sets)
553 (let ((output nil))
554 ;;if only one partial-interpretation-set (or none) return it only
555 (cond ((= (length partial-interpretation-sets) 2)
556 (first partial-interpretation-sets))
557 ;;if 2 partial-interpretation-sets, representing two zero args, e.g.
558 ;; ?agen and ?obje, bottom out and permute
559 ((equal 2 (length partial-interpretation-sets))
560 (let ((first-list (first partial-interpretation-sets))
561 (second-list (second partial-interpretation-sets)))
562 (loop for x in first-list do
563 (loop for y in second-list do
564 (setq output (cons (append x y) output))))
565 (reverse output)))
566 ;;else recurse
567 (t (rws::permute-all-partial-interpretation-sets
568 (list (first partial-interpretation-sets)
569 (rws::permute-all-partial-interpretation-sets (rest partial-interpretation-sets)))))))
571
572 ;;
573 III.E.1. FILTERING COREFERENCE VIOLATIONS
574 ;;
575
576 ;;Input is a set of "bare" interpretations -- not yet complete interpretation data structures --
577 ;;where each interpretation is a list of pairs
578 ;;e.g. ( (?AGEN . #<Structure RWS::NODE E30EEE> ...) (?AGEN . #<Structure RWS::NODE E30EBE>) ...) )
579 (defun rws::filter-coreference-violations-and-sort (interpretations &key (sort nil)) <<#941207 default is no sort
580 (let ((output nil))
581 (loop for interpretation in interpretations do
582 (let ((entities
583 (loop for pair in interpretation collect
584 (cdr pair))))
585 (if (not (rws::fs-list-contains-repetitions? entities))
586 (if sort
587 ;;if explicitly requested
588 ;;sort pairs in this possible interpretation by salience
589 (let* ((sorted-pairs-for-interpretation
590 (rws::sort-case-based-pairs interpretation)))
591 (setq output (cons sorted-pairs-for-interpretation output)))
592 ;;if not, return the interpretation as it is
593 (setq output (cons interpretation output))))))
594 (reverse output)))
595
596 (defun rws::fs-list-contains-repetitions? (list)
597 (let ((found? nil))
598 (loop for x in list until found? do
599 ;;equal does work for feature structures
600 (let ((list-minus-x (remove x list :test #'rws::fs-equal)))

```

```

LINE #          TEXT
601          (if (> (- (length list) (length list-minus-x) ) 1)
602              (setq found? t)))
603          found?))
604
605          ////////////////////////////////////////////////////
606          /// III.F. AUGMENTING INTERPRETATIONS
607          ////////////////////////////////////////////////////
608
609          ///Input is a "bare" interpretation -- not yet a complete interpretation data structure --
610          ///in the form (<pair><pair> ...)
611          ///Output is a complete interpretation data structure
612          ///of form (transition-type backward-looking-center preferred-center interpretation)
613          (defun rws::augment-interpretation (interpretation)
614              (let* ((preferred-center
615                     (rws::get-interpretation-preferred-center interpretation))
616                    (backward-looking-center
617                     (rws::get-interpretation-backward-looking-center interpretation))
618                    (transition-type
619                     (rws::get-interpretation-transition-type backward-looking-center preferred-center)))
620
621                  ;;returning augmented, complete, interpretation
622                  (list transition-type backward-looking-center preferred-center interpretation)))
623
624          //=====
625          /// III.F.1. CALCULATING PREFERRED CENTER
626          //=====
627
628          (defun rws::get-interpretation-preferred-center (interpretation)
629              (cdr (rws::get-most-salient-pair interpretation)))
630
631          ///CASE-BASED pairs have e.g. ?agen as car.
632          ///SYNTAX-BASED have e.g. ?subj.
633          ///If input list-of-pairs is case-based, this function
634          ///converts to syntax-based internally
635          ///to enable sorting by syntax-based salience.
636          ///Always delivers case-based output.
637          (defun rws::get-most-salient-pair (list-of-pairs &key (input-type 'case))
638              (if (equal input-type 'case)
639                  ;;sort-case-based-pairs
640                  ;;internally converts into syntax-based for sorting
641                  ;;and then back to case-based for output
642                  (first (rws::sort-case-based-pairs list-of-pairs))
643                  (first (rws::sort-syntax-based-pairs list-of-pairs))))
644
645          ///Internally converts to syntax-based list of pairs,
646          ///sorts according to syntactic salience, and then
647          ///reconverts to case-based, preserving ordering.
648          (defun rws::sort-case-based-pairs (case-based-pairs)
649              (let* ((syntax-based-pairs
650                     (loop for pair in case-based-pairs collect
651                          (let* ((case (car pair))
652                                 (syntactic-function
653                                 (rws::get-syntactic-function-for-case case)))
654                              (cons syntactic-function (cdr pair))))))
655                    (sorted-syntax-based-pairs
656                     (rws::sort-syntax-based-pairs syntax-based-pairs))
657                    (sorted-case-based-pairs
658                     (loop for pair in sorted-syntax-based-pairs collect
659                          (let* ((syntactic-function (car pair))
660                                 (case
661                                 (rws::get-case-for-syntactic-function syntactic-function)))
662                              (cons case (cdr pair))))))
663                    sorted-case-based-pairs))
664
665          (defun rws::sort-syntax-based-pairs (syntax-based-pairs)
666              (sort
667               syntax-based-pairs
668               #'rws::center-salience-greaterp :key #'first))
669
670          ///Current simple format for a center, or entity: (?case-tag . <node str>)
671          ///Thus *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* becomes a subset of pairlis -- same format.
672          ///(?agen ?obje ?recp)
673
674          (defvar *center-salience-ranking* nil)
675
676          ///Map cases into syntactic functions.
677          ///This mapping is incomplete -- for
678          ///demonstration only -- and does not address problems of
679          ///ambiguous mappings.
680
681          ///Walker et al use this hierarchy: topic :empathy :subj :obj2 :obj
682          (setf (*agen ?obje ?recp))
683          (setq *center-salience-ranking*
684                '(subj obj2 obj))
685
686          (defvar *case-to-syntactic-function-mapping*
687                '((?agen subj)
688                  (?obje obj)
689                  (?recp obj2)))
690
691          (defvar *syntactic-function-to-case-mapping*
692                '((subj ?agen)
693                  (obj ?obje)
694                  (obj2 ?recp)))
695
696          (defun rws::get-syntactic-function-for-case (case)
697              (second (assoc case *case-to-syntactic-function-mapping*
698                            :test #'equal)))
699
700          (defun rws::get-case-for-syntactic-function (syntactic-function)
701              (second (assoc syntactic-function *syntactic-function-to-case-mapping*
702                            :test #'equal)))
703
704          (defun rws::center-salience-lessp (center1 center2)
705              (< (length (member center1 *center-salience-ranking*))
706                (length (member center2 *center-salience-ranking*))))
707
708          (defun rws::center-salience-greaterp (center1 center2)
709              (> (length (member center1 *center-salience-ranking*))
710                (length (member center2 *center-salience-ranking*))))
711
712          //=====
713          /// III.F.2. CALCULATING BACKWARD LOOKING CENTER
714          //=====
715
716          ///Input to this function is a "bare" interpretation, i.e. a list of pairs.
717          ///Backward-looking-center of the current utterance Ui is the most
718          ///salient entity of the last utterance which appears in Ui,
719          ///that is, the entity also in Ui which had the most salient role in Ui-1.
720          ///Output is this entity, a feature structure.

```



```

LINE #          TEXT
721 (defun rws::get-interpretation-backward-looking-center (interpretation)
722 (let* ( ;;list of feature structures
723 (entities-in-this-interpretation
724 (loop for pair in interpretation collect
725 (cdr pair)))
726 ;;list of feature structures
727 (entities-in-last-utterance
728 (loop for pair in *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* collect
729 (cdr pair)))
730 ;;list of feature structures
731 (entities-in-last-utterance-also-in-this-interpretation
732 (intersection entities-in-last-utterance entities-in-this-interpretation
733 :test #'rws::fs-equal))
734 (pairs-in-last-utterance-also-in-this-interpretation
735 (loop for entity in entities-in-last-utterance-also-in-this-interpretation collect
736 (rassoc entity *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* :test #'rws::fs-equal)))
737 (most-salient-pair-in-last-utterance-also-in-this-interpretation
738 (rws::get-most-salient-pair pairs-in-last-utterance-also-in-this-interpretation)))
739 (cdr most-salient-pair-in-last-utterance-also-in-this-interpretation)))
740
741 =====
742 ;; III.F.3. CALCULATING TRANSITION TYPE
743 =====
744
745 ;;BACKWARD-LOOKING-CENTER and PREFERRED-CENTER are feature structures of the current utterance.
746 ;;Do not confuse *backward-looking-center-of-last-utterance* with
747 ;;the BACKWARD-LOOKING-CENTER of the current utterance Ui, which is input to this function.
748 (defun rws::get-interpretation-transition-type (backward-looking-center preferred-center)
749 ;;If this is the first utterance of a dialogue segment, there can be no transition.
750 (if *initialize-centering*
751 'no-transition
752 ;;If this is not the first utterance of a dialogue segment,
753 ;;in the special case of a second utterance, *backward-looking-center-of-last-utterance*
754 ;;will be nil. Note that this is treated as a continuation of backward-looking-center from U1-1 to Ui.
755 (if (or (null *backward-looking-center-of-last-utterance*)
756 (rws::fs-equal backward-looking-center *backward-looking-center-of-last-utterance*))
757 (if (rws::fs-equal backward-looking-center preferred-center)
758 'continue
759 'retain)
760 (if (rws::fs-equal backward-looking-center preferred-center)
761 'smooth-shift
762 'shift))))
763
764 =====
765 ;; III.G. SELECTING THE INTERPRETATION WITH THE HIGHEST RANKING TRANSITION TYPE
766 =====
767
768 =====
769 ;; III.G.1. automatic selection
770 =====
771
772 ;;Each POSSIBLE-INTERPRETATION is of the form
773 ;;(transition-type backward-looking-center preferred-center bare-interpretation)
774 (defun rws::get-highest-ranking-interpretation (possible-interpretations)
775 (first
776 (sort
777 possible-interpretations
778 #'rws::transition-type-preference-greaterp :key #'first)))
779
780 (defvar *transition-type-ranking* nil
781 "The preferred ranking of transition states")
782
783 (setg *transition-type-ranking*
784 '(continue retain smooth-shift no-transition))
785
786 (defun rws::transition-type-preference-lessp (state1 state2)
787 (declare (special *transition-states-ranking*))
788 (assert (and state1 state2))
789 (< (length (member state1 *transition-type-ranking*))
790 (length (member state2 *transition-type-ranking*))))
791
792 (defun rws::transition-type-preference-greaterp (state1 state2)
793 (declare (special *transition-states-ranking*))
794 (assert (and state1 state2))
795 (> (length (member state1 *transition-type-ranking*))
796 (length (member state2 *transition-type-ranking*))))
797
798 =====
799 ;; III.G.2. interactive selection
800 =====
801
802 (defun rws::get-highest-ranking-interpretation-from-user (possible-interpretations)
803 (let* ((response nil)
804 (selection nil)
805 (sorted-interpretations
806 (sort
807 possible-interpretations
808 #'rws::transition-type-preference-greaterp :key #'first)))
809 (number-of-interpretations (length sorted-interpretations)))
810
811 (format t "~%POSSIBLE INTERPRETATIONS (BELOW) ORDERED BY TRANSITION PREFERENCE:")
812 (rws::pprint-all-interpretations sorted-interpretations)
813 (format t "~%POSSIBLE INTERPRETATIONS (ABOVE) ORDERED BY TRANSITION PREFERENCE:")
814 (format t "%2$SELECT BY TYPING NUMBER: ")
815 (setg response (read))
816 (loop until (and (integerp response)
817 (>= response 1)
818 (<= response number-of-interpretations))
819 do
820 (format t "%2$RESPONSE MUST BE INTEGER FROM 1 TO %s." number-of-interpretations)
821 (format t "%2$Select by typing number: ")
822 (setg response (read)))
823 (nth (1- response) sorted-interpretations)))
824
825 =====
826 ;; III.H. UPDATING PAIRLIS
827 =====
828
829 (defun rws::install-interpretation-in-pairlis (interpretation mypairlis)
830 (let ((forward-looking-centers
831 (rws::get-interpretation-element interpretation 'forward-looking-centers)))
832 (loop for pair in forward-looking-centers do
833 (let ((case (first pair))
834 (value (rest pair)))
835 (rws::install-key-value case value mypairlis))))))
836
837 =====
838 ;; III.I. UPDATING *FORWARD-LOOKING-CENTERS-OF-LAST-UTTERANCE*
839 =====
840

```

LINE #	TEXT
841	(defun rws::update-forward-looking-centers (interpretation)
842	(let ((forward-looking-centers
843	(rws::get-interpretation-element interpretation 'forward-looking-centers)))
844	(setq *forward-looking-centers-of-last-utterance* forward-looking-centers))
845	
846	////////////////////////////////////
847	/// III.J. UPDATING *BACKWARD-LOOKING-CENTER-OF-LAST-UTTERANCE*
848	////////////////////////////////////
849	
850	(defun rws::update-backward-looking-center (interpretation)
851	(let ((backward-looking-center
852	(rws::get-interpretation-element interpretation 'backward-looking-center)))
853	(setq *backward-looking-center-of-last-utterance* backward-looking-center))
854	
855	
856	///end of seligman file

LINE #	TEXT
1	(in-package :user)
2	;;loads ruleset for all.921028.euc
3	
4	
5	;;*****
6	;;LOADING
7	;;*****
8	
9	;;load transfer system
10	;;have to do this before mentioning rws::
11	(load "/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/transfer/load-basic.lisp")
12	
13	;;load printing fns for output
14	(load "/aux/readfns.lisp")
15	
16	-----
17	;;In load-mset.lisp is a loop, loading
18	;;my own (usually changed) files from
19	;;"/home/seligman/transfer/rules/grammar-mset/"
20	
21	;;7/30/92 substituting a single file containing all rules
22	
23	(defun load-trules ()
24	(rws::remove-all-rw-rules2)
25	(load "/transfer/rules/all.euc") ;<<<renamed was all.921028.euc
26	
27	-----
28	
29	(defun load-anouts ()
30	(setq fs (rws::push-fs-from-file
31	"/usr/project/asura/develop/translation/transfer/mset-demo.fix"))
32	
33	-----
34	
35	;;shortcut
36	(defun load-trules-and-anouts ()
37	(load-trules)
38	(load-anouts)
39	
40	(load-trules-and-anouts)
41	
42	-----
43	
44	;;alters printout of tranfer results: yields proper "loop" format for generation input
45	(load "/transfer/fns/debug-patch.lisp")
46	
47	;;assures new version of this file
48	;;****until 1/12/93 (load "/home2/nadine91/transfer/rws-v2/engine/transferl.lisp.9204")
49	;;(load "/home/seligman/transfer/rws-v2/engine/transferl.lisp.9204")
50	
51	;;same as above -- avoids extraneous printed material in outdata file
52	(load "/transfer/fns/transferl-patch.lisp")
53	
54	-----
55	
56	;;EXECUTE
57	;;*****
58	
59	;;do transfer
60	;;94/03/03 adding initialize-centering key
61	;;940311 adding key args for interactive and debug-centering
62	;;beware errors -- some changes made (fixed?) in transferfns.lisp which should be here instead
63	(defun dt (number &key (debug-transfer nil) (debug-centering nil)(initialize-centering nil)(interactive-centering nil))
64	(if initialize-centering
65	(rws::initialize-on) ;setq *initialize-centering* t
66	(rws::initialize-off) ;setq *initialize-centering* nil
67	
68	(if debug-centering
69	(rws::debug-centering-on) ;setq *debug-centering* t
70	(rws::debug-centering-off) ;setq *debug-centering* nil
71	
72	(if interactive-centering
73	(setq *interactive-centering* t)
74	(setq *interactive-centering* nil))
75	
76	(if debug-transfer (bug-on)(bug-off))
77	(let ((anout (nth (1- number) fs)))
78	(rws::trans anout)))
79	
80	;;do multi-transfer
81	(defun dmt (start end)
82	(rws::trans-range-exec fs start end nil))
83	
84	;;*****
85	;;DEBUG and PRINT
86	;;*****
87	
88	
89	(defun debugt ()
90	(rws::debug-transfer))
91	
92	;;print transfer rule
93	(defun ptr (rule)
94	(rws::print-rw-rule2 rule))
95	
96	(defun bug-on ()
97	;(setq rws::'debug-transfer-input* t)
98	(setq rws::'debug-transfer* t)
99	(setq rws::'debug-apply-rw-rule* t)
100	(setq rws::'debug-rewrite-subfs* t) ;<<<<nil)
101	(setq rws::'debug-fs-match* t)
102	(setq rws::'debug-parameter-setting* nil)
103	(setq rws::'preference-fig* nil))
104	
105	(defun bug-off ()
106	;(setq rws::'debug-transfer-input* t)
107	(setq rws::'debug-transfer* t)
108	(setq rws::'debug-apply-rw-rule* nil)
109	(setq rws::'debug-rewrite-subfs* nil)
110	(setq rws::'debug-fs-match* nil)
111	(setq rws::'debug-parameter-setting* nil)
112	(setq rws::'preference-fig* nil))
113	
114	(defun input-on ()
115	(setq rws::'debug-transfer-input* t))
116	
117	(defun input-off ()
118	(setq rws::'debug-transfer-input* nil))
119	
120	;;as in debug-patch.lisp -- repeated for easy reference

